

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/CA2004/001851

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of the first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons :

1. ☒ Claim Nos. : 1-22
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely :

Methods for the treatment of the human body (PCT Rule 39.1(iv)). Although claims 1-22 are formulated in terms of steps for the treatment of the human body, a search has been carried out based on the use of the claimed system.
2. ☐ Claim Nos. :
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically :
3. ☐ Claims Nos. :
because they are dependant claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows :

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claim Nos. :
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claim Nos. :

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC⁷ A61M 16/00, A61H 31/02

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC⁷ A61M 16/00, A61H 31/02, A61H 31/00 and a combination of keywords (positive and negative and pressure and vacuum and (thorax or sternum or abdomen or ribs or cage)
US Classes 601/011 or 601/044

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base, and, where practicable, search terms used)

Delphion, Esp@cenet, USPTO, Canadian Patent Database and Internet and a combination of keywords (positive and negative and pressure and vacuum and (thorax or sternum or abdomen or ribs or cage)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 4 481 938 (Lindley) 13 Nov. 1984 (13.11.1984), column 4, line 39 to column 6, line 29, column 7, lines 51 to 68 and figures 1,2 and 5	1-10, 12, 14-16, 18, 19, 23-26, 28-38, 40, 42-44, 46, 47
Y, P	US 6 779 523 (Starmed S.p.A.) 24 Aug. 2004 (24.08.2004), column 2, line 11 to column 3, line 10 and figure 1	1-3, 12, 23, 24, 30-32, 40
Y	WO 99/43374 (Université de Montréal) 2 Sep. 1999 (02.09.1999), page 4, line 8 to page 8, line 17, page 11, lines 24 to 27 and figure 1	4, 5, 25, 28, 33, 34
Y	WO 01/08735 (Université de Montréal) 8 Feb. 2001 (08.02.2001), page 4, line 6 to page 7, line 25 and figure 1	6-10, 26, 35-38
Y	US 5 871 008 (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) 16 Feb. 1999 (16.02.1999), Abstract, column 4, lines 18 to 35, column 13, line 10 to column 14, line 15, column 15, line 65 to column 16, line 31 and figures 1 to 3 and 27 to 29	14-16, 18, 19, 29, 42-44, 46, 47
A	US 2 822 803 (T. C. Huxley III et al.) 11 Feb. 1958 (11.02.1958), the whole document	1-3, 12, 23, 24, 30-32, 40

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&" document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international-type search
8 December 2004 (08-12-2004)

Date of mailing of the international-type search report
02 March 2005 (02-03-2005)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/CA
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Information on patent family members

International application No.
PCT/CA2004/001851

Patent Document Cited in Search Report	Publication Date	Patent Family Member(s)	Publication Date
US4481938	13-11-1984	AT43787T T	15-06-1989
		DE3478572D D1	13-07-1989
		EP0172287 A1	26-02-1986
		US4481938 A	13-11-1984
US6779523	24-08-2004	CA2433118 A1	09-01-2004
		EP1380275 A1	14-01-2004
		ITMI20021502 A1	09-01-2004
		JP2004041727 A	12-02-2004
		US6779523 B2	24-08-2004
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		AU2706899 A	15-09-1999
		CA2230857 A1	27-08-1999
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		US6588423 B1	08-07-2003
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		CA2379671 A1	08-02-2001
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		JP2003505213T T	12-02-2003
		WO0108735 A1	08-02-2001
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